

Message Text

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53

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 EB-07 L-02 H-02 NSC-05

SCA-01 JUSE-00 COME-00 FRB-01 TRSE-00 PA-02 PRS-01

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 INRE-00 PPTE-00 SY-05 FBIE-00

SSO-00 /070 W

----- 107286

O 101330Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7394

INFO USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 3308

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CPAS,IN,US

SUBJECT: TIMES OF INDIA REPORTS DROBOT FLEES INDIA

1. TIMES OF INDIA MARCH 10 IN A PAGE SEVEN STORY IS THE ONLY
INDIAN PAPER DISCLOSING THAT WESTINGHOUSE VICE-PRESIDENT JAN
DROBOT HAS JUMPED BAIL AND FLED INDIA.

2. CHARGING DROBOT WITH "EVASION OF HUGE AMOUNTS OF INCOME TAX
AND FRAUDULENT FOREIGN EXCHANGE TRANSACTIONS," REPORT BY A "SPECIAL
CORRESPONDENT" CITED "OFFICIAL SOURCES" SAYING DROBOT "ESCAPED
EITHER THROUGH BORDER WITH PAKISTAN OR NEPAL" AND ADDED THAT HE
WAS RECENTLY IN FRANKFURT WHERE HE HAD APPLIED FOR AN AMERICAN
PASSPORT AS "HIS ORIGINAL PASSPORT HAD BEEN STOLEN."

3. ACCORDING TO THE CORRESPONDENT DROBOT IS NOW IN THE U.S. AND
THE EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTRY IS "KNOWN TO HAVE DEMANDED HIS
EXTRADITION FROM THERE. THE MATTER HAS BEEN TAKEN UP BY THE
MINISTRY WITH THE AMERICAN EMBASSY" IN NEW DELHI.

4. THE CORRESPONDENT ALSO QUOTED "OFFICIAL SOURCES" DECLARING
THAT "SECRUTINY OF THE SEIZED MATERIAL" REVEALED THAT "ONLY A
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PORTION" OF THE EXPENSES OF THE COMPANY WAS "SENT ABROAD THROUGH

LEGAL BANKING CHANNELS...THE BALANCE HAD BEEN MET FROM UNDISCLOSED SOURCES AND BY UNAUTHORIZED DEALS IN FOREIGN EXCHANGE" AND THAT "SUBSTANTIAL COMMISSION" HAD BEEN PAID "SECRETLY" BY THE COMPANY TO "PERSONS IN INDIA" FOR PROCURING CONTRACTS.

5. DURING DEBATE TODAY ON THE US ARMS POLICY IN THE INDIAN PARLIAMENT, AN OPPOSITION MEMBER CRITICIZED THE GOVERNMENT FOR PERMITTING DROBOT TO ESCAPE.SAXBE

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